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(71)Applicant : MITSUBISHI RAYON CO LTD

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(72)Inventor : SEYA MASAOKI

TAKAHASHI HARUKO

TOYAMA MASAYUKI

(54) AMPHIPHILIC POLYMER AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME**(57)Abstract:**

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a polymer with excellent performance such as the capability to control the production of an inclusion hydrate, and to provide a method for producing the same.

SOLUTION: A controlling agent for the production of an inclusion hydrate comprises a polymer which has an amphiphilic monomer unit as a principal component, a mass average molecular weight of 500-3,500, a ratio of mass average molecular weight/number average molecular weight of 1.0-3.0 and a hydroxy group and a sulfur-containing substituent as terminal groups of the polymer. A method for producing the polymer comprises performing polymerization while adding dropwise an amphiphilic monomer, an initiator and a mercaptan containing a hydroxy group, optionally another monomer copolymerizable with an amphiphilic monomer, to a polymer system.

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